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RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/53/L.33/Rev.2 and Rev.2/Add.1, A/53/L.44 and Add.1, A/53/L.63, A/53/L.31 and Add.1, A/53/L.64 and A/53/L.72)*]

53/1. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

J

Assistance for the reconstruction and development of Djibouti

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/169 K of 16 December 1997 and its previous resolutions on economic assistance to Djibouti,

Recalling also the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s,[1] adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries on 14 September 1990, as well as the mutual commitments undertaken on that occasion and the importance attached to the follow-up to that Conference,

Conscious that Djibouti is included in the list of least developed countries and that it is ranked 162nd out of the 174 countries studied in the *Human Development Report 1998*,[2]

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[1] A/CONF.147/18, part one.

[2] Published for the United Nations Development Programme by Oxford University Press, New York, 1998.

Noting that the economic and social development efforts of Djibouti are constrained by the extremes of the local climate, in particular cyclical droughts and torrential rains and floods such as those that occurred in October and November 1997, and that the implementation of reconstruction and development programmes requires the deployment of substantial resources that exceed the real capacity of the country,

Emphasizing that there is an urgent need to provide financial support in the areas of demobilization, reconstruction and rehabilitation of the regions affected by civil strife, with a view to strengthening peace and stability in the country,

Noting that the situation in Djibouti has been made worse by the deteriorating situation in the Horn of Africa, in particular in Somalia, and noting also the presence of tens of thousands of refugees and persons displaced from their countries, which has placed serious strains on the fragile economic, social and administrative infrastructure of Djibouti and caused security problems in the country, in particular in the city of Djibouti,

Noting with satisfaction that the Government of Djibouti is continuing to implement a structural adjustment programme, and convinced of the necessity to support that financial recovery programme and to take effective measures to alleviate the consequences, in particular the social consequences, of that adjustment policy, so that the country may achieve lasting economic results,

Noting with gratitude the support provided to relief and rehabilitation operations by various countries and by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance for the reconstruction and development of Djibouti;[3]

2. *Declares its solidarity* with the Government and the people of Djibouti, who continue to face critical challenges owing, in particular, to the scarcity of natural resources and the continuing critical situation in the Horn of Africa;

3. *Notes* the implementation by the Government of Djibouti of the structural adjustment programme and, in that context, appeals to all Governments, international financial institutions, the specialized agencies of the United Nations and non-governmental organizations to respond adequately to the financial and material needs of the country;

4. *Considers* that the process of demobilization and the reintegration and employment of demobilized soldiers is essential not only for national rehabilitation, but also for the success of the agreements with the international financial institutions and for the consolidation of peace, and that it requires substantial resources that exceed the real capacity of the country;

5. *Expresses its gratitude* to the States and intergovernmental organizations that have already contributed the sums pledged at the round table on Djibouti, held at Geneva on 29 and 30 May 1997;

6. *Also expresses its gratitude* to the intergovernmental organizations and especially to the United Nations Development Programme, as well as the other funds and programmes of the United Nations

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[3] A/53/361.

system, for their contributions to the national rehabilitation of Djibouti, and invites them to continue their efforts;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to make the international community aware of the difficulties faced by Djibouti;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, in close cooperation with the Government of Djibouti, his efforts to mobilize the resources necessary for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to Djibouti;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council at the humanitarian affairs segment of its substantive session of 1999, on the progress made with regard to economic assistance to Djibouti and the implementation of the present resolution.

81st plenary meeting
7 December 1998

K

EMERGENCY INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR PEACE, NORMALCY AND REHABILITATION IN TAJIKISTAN

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/30 J of 25 April 1997 and 52/169 I of 16 December 1997,

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 1113 (1997) of 12 June 1997, 1128 (1997) of 12 September 1997, 1138 (1997) of 14 November 1997, 1167 (1998) of 14 May 1998 and 1206 (1998) of 12 November 1998,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[4]

Welcoming the progress made by the parties in the movement towards the implementation of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan,[5]

Commending the efforts of the United Nations, in particular those of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Tajikistan and of the personnel of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, in assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement,

Noting that the economic situation in Tajikistan remains bleak, constraining the efforts of the Government of Tajikistan to support the vulnerable population, including returning refugees and displaced persons, and that the country remains in dire need of humanitarian, rehabilitation and development assistance,

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[4] A/53/316.

[5] A/52/219–S/1997/510, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1997*, document S/1997/510.

Expressing its regret over the muted response to the 1998 United Nations inter-agency appeal for Tajikistan,

Recognizing the need for international support in creating conditions to shed the dependency of Tajikistan on humanitarian assistance, thus preventing Tajikistan from becoming a permanent emergency,

Bearing in mind the close interrelationship between ensuring peace and achieving national reconciliation in Tajikistan and the ability of the country to meet the humanitarian needs of its people and to take effective steps towards the rapid revitalization of the economy, and reaffirming the urgent need to assist Tajikistan in its efforts to restore basic services and the infrastructure of the country,

Expressing concern that the security situation in parts of Tajikistan remains volatile,

Deeply concerned about the danger posed by landmines in Tajikistan,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[4] and endorses the observations and recommendations set out therein;

2. *Welcomes* the efforts aimed at achieving peace and national reconciliation in Tajikistan, encourages the parties to expedite the full implementation of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan,[5] and encourages the Commission on National Reconciliation to continue its efforts, in particular those aimed at the institution of a broad dialogue among the various political forces in the country in the interests of restoration and strengthening of civil accord in Tajikistan;

3. *Welcomes with appreciation* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General in drawing the attention of the international community to the acute humanitarian problems of Tajikistan and in mobilizing assistance for the implementation of the General Agreement and the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the country;

4. *Welcomes* the appointment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Resident Coordinator as Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Tajikistan;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to the States, organizations of the United Nations system, the World Bank, other intergovernmental organizations and all relevant humanitarian organizations, agencies and non-governmental organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, that have responded and continue to respond positively to the humanitarian needs of Tajikistan;

6. *Welcomes* the pledges made at the donor conference convened by the Secretary-General at Vienna on 24 and 25 November 1997 to obtain international support dedicated to the implementation of the General Agreement, in particular in the areas of political reconciliation and democratization, the demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants and the reform of power structures, and the repatriation and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons, and invites the donor countries to continue to provide necessary assistance;

7. *Notes with satisfaction* the results of the meeting of the World Bank Consultative Group on Tajikistan, held in Paris on 20 May 1998;

8. *Encourages* Member States and others concerned to continue assistance to alleviate the urgent humanitarian needs of Tajikistan and to offer support to Tajikistan for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of its economy;

9. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to continue the United Nations humanitarian programme in Tajikistan by issuing a consolidated inter-agency appeal for humanitarian assistance to Tajikistan for 1999, and invites Member States to fund programmes included in the appeal;

10. *Strongly condemns* the murder of four members of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, and urges the parties to ensure the safety, security and freedom of movement of United Nations and other international humanitarian personnel, as well as the safety and security of their premises;

11. *Encourages* the parties to cooperate in order to reduce the threat from the indiscriminate use of landmines to the civilian population of Tajikistan and to the provision of humanitarian assistance;

12. *Recognizes* that comprehensive international support remains essential for the intensification of the peace process in Tajikistan, and reminds both parties that the ability of the international community to mobilize and to continue assistance for Tajikistan is linked to the security of the personnel of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan and of international organizations and of humanitarian workers;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the humanitarian situation in Tajikistan and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-fourth session the question of the situation of Tajikistan under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance".

81st plenary meeting
7 December 1998

L

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND RECONSTRUCTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/169 A of 16 December 1997,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[6]

Deeply concerned about the current conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which poses a serious threat to regional peace and security,

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[6] A/53/538.

Reaffirming the obligation to respect the territorial integrity and national sovereignty of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the other States in the region and the need for all States to refrain from any interference in each other's internal affairs,

Alarmed at the plight of the civilian population throughout the country, and calling for its protection,

Urging all parties to respect and protect human rights and respect international humanitarian law, in particular, the Geneva Conventions of 1949[7] and the additional Protocols thereto of 1977,[8]

Deeply concerned about the extensive destruction of life and property as well as the severe damage to infrastructure and the environment suffered by the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Bearing in mind that the Democratic Republic of the Congo also suffers from the problems encountered by a country that has received thousands of refugees from neighbouring countries,

Recalling that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a least developed country with severe economic and social problems arising from its weak economic infrastructure and aggravated by the ongoing conflict,

Bearing in mind the close interrelationship between ensuring peace and security and the ability of the country to meet the humanitarian needs of its people and to take effective steps towards the rapid revitalization of the economy, and reaffirming the urgent need to assist the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of its damaged economy and in its efforts to restore basic services and the infrastructure of the country,

1. *Calls* for a peaceful solution to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including an immediate ceasefire, the withdrawal of all foreign forces, the initiation of a peace process, including negotiations to end the conflict, and a political dialogue with a view to national reconciliation;

2. *Supports* regional diplomatic initiatives aimed at a peaceful settlement of the conflict;

3. *Encourages* the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to pursue sound macroeconomic policies and to promote good governance and the rule of the law, and urges the Government and the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to exert all efforts for economic recovery and reconstruction despite the ongoing armed conflict;

4. *Renews its invitation* to the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to cooperate with the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other organizations in addressing the need for rehabilitation and reconstruction, stresses the need for the Government to assist and protect the civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons within the territory of that country, regardless of their origin, and reaffirms the need for respect for the provisions of international humanitarian law, in particular the safety of humanitarian personnel, and safe and unhindered access to all affected populations;

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[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[8] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

5. *Renews its urgent appeal* to the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes to keep under consideration the special needs of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To continue to consult urgently with regional leaders, in coordination with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, about ways to bring about a peaceful and durable solution to the conflict;

(*b*) To keep under review the economic situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with a view to promoting participation in and support for a programme of financial and material assistance to the Democratic Republic of the Congo in order to enable it to meet its urgent need for economic recovery and reconstruction;

(*c*) To submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session a report on the actions taken pursuant to the present resolution.

81st plenary meeting
7 December 1998

M

ASSISTANCE FOR HUMANITARIAN RELIEF AND THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION OF SOMALIA

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/206 of 20 December 1988, 44/178 of 19 December 1989, 45/229 of 21 December 1990, 46/176 of 19 December 1991, 47/160 of 18 December 1992, 48/201 of 21 December 1993, 49/21 L of 20 December 1994, 50/58 G of 20 December 1995, 51/30 G of 13 December 1996 and 52/169 L of 16 December 1997 and the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council on emergency assistance to Somalia,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 733 (1992) of 23 January 1992 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, in which the Council, *inter alia*, urged all parties, movements and factions in Somalia to facilitate the efforts of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and humanitarian organizations to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the affected population in Somalia and reiterated the call for the full respect of the security and safety of the personnel of those organizations and guarantee of their complete freedom of movement in and around Mogadishu and other parts of Somalia,

Noting the cooperation between the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States, the European Union, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the countries of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and others in their efforts to resolve the humanitarian, security and political crisis in Somalia,

Noting with appreciation the continued efforts made by the Secretary-General to assist the Somali people in their efforts to promote peace, stability and national reconciliation,

Noting with concern that the absence of central authority and effective civil institutions that characterizes Somalia continues to impede sustained comprehensive development and that, while the environment has become conducive to some reconstruction and development-oriented work in certain parts of the country, the humanitarian and security situation has remained fragile in other parts,

Welcoming the joint strategy for efficient and targeted assistance and the framework for collaboration developed and adopted by the United Nations and non-governmental organizations, and reaffirming the importance it attaches to the need for effective coordination and cooperation among the United Nations agencies and their partners,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia,[9]

Deeply appreciative of the humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation support rendered by a number of States to alleviate the hardship and suffering of the affected Somali population,

Recognizing that, while the humanitarian situation remains fragile in some parts, there is a need to continue the ongoing rehabilitation and reconstruction process alongside the national reconciliation process, without prejudice to the provision of emergency relief assistance wherever and whenever required, as security allows,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the United Nations system aimed at working directly with Somali communities, whenever possible, in the absence of a recognized national government, and welcoming the continued focus of the United Nations, in partnership with Somali elders, other local leaders and skilled local counterparts at the grass-roots level, as well as non-governmental organizations, on a programme of assistance combining humanitarian and developmental approaches, given the varying conditions in different areas,

Re-emphasizing the importance of the further implementation of its resolution 47/160 to rehabilitate basic social and economic services at local and regional levels throughout the country,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to all States and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have responded to the appeals of the Secretary-General and others by extending assistance to Somalia;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continuing and tireless efforts to mobilize assistance to the Somali people;

3. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States, the European Union, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the countries of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and others to resolve the situation in Somalia;

4. *Also welcomes* the strategy of the United Nations focusing on the implementation of community-based interventions aimed at rebuilding local infrastructures and increasing the self-reliance of the local

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[9] A/53/344.

population, and the ongoing efforts by the United Nations agencies, their Somali counterparts and their partner organizations to establish and maintain close coordination and cooperation mechanisms available for the implementation of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes;

5. *Emphasizes* the principle that the Somali people, in particular at the local level, have the primary responsibility for their own development and for the sustainability of rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance programmes, and reaffirms the importance it attaches to the creation of workable arrangements for collaboration between the United Nations system and its partner organizations and their Somali counterparts for the effective execution of rehabilitation and development activities in those parts of the country where peace and security prevail;

6. *Urges* all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to continue the further implementation of its resolution 47/160 so as to assist the Somali people to embark on the rehabilitation of basic social and economic services, as well as institution-building aimed at the restoration of civil administration at the local level in all those parts of the country where peace and security prevail;

7. *Appeals* to all the Somali parties concerned to seek peaceful means for resolving differences and to redouble their efforts to achieve national reconciliation that allows for transition from relief to reconstruction and development;

8. *Calls upon* all parties, movements and factions in Somalia to respect fully the security and safety of personnel of the United Nations and its specialized agencies and of non-governmental organizations, and to guarantee their complete freedom of movement throughout the country;

9. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize international humanitarian, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance for Somalia;

10. *Calls upon* the international community to provide continuing and increased assistance in response to the United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance for Somalia covering the period from October 1998 to December 1999;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in view of the critical situation in Somalia, to take all necessary measures for the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session.

82nd plenary meeting
8 December 1998

N

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO CENTRAL AND EAST AFRICAN COUNTRIES RECEIVING REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/24 of 2 December 1994 and 52/169 B of 16 December 1997,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[10]

Deeply concerned about the ongoing conflicts in the Great Lakes region, which pose a serious threat to regional peace and security, and by the flow of refugees, returnees and other displaced persons as a result of those conflicts,

Bearing in mind that the majority of refugees and displaced persons are women and children,

Deeply concerned about the plight of refugee children, in particular the problem of unaccompanied minors, and emphasizing the need for their protection, well-being and reunification with their families,

Bearing in mind the evident impact of the flow of refugees on the basic infrastructure, the environment and the life and property of local populations in the host countries,

Recognizing that the Central and East African countries receiving refugees, most of them least developed countries, continue to experience an extremely critical economic situation,

Deeply concerned about the grave consequences this has entailed for the capability of Central and East African countries to build their economies,

Noting with great concern that, despite all the efforts deployed so far by the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity and others, the situation of refugees and displaced persons in Central and East Africa remains precarious and unsolved,

Aware of the need to improve the security situation in the region, particularly in the border areas, for the safety of the refugees, the local community and personnel involved in humanitarian activities,

Recognizing the need for States to create conditions conducive to an early and sustainable solution to the flow of refugees, returnees and other displaced persons,

Expressing its appreciation to the Central and East African countries that have received refugees for the sacrifices they are making in granting refuge and hospitality to them,

Observing that the humanitarian aid dispatched should as far as possible take into consideration the scale of the needs of the local populations,

Stressing the need to continue to provide special assistance to the local populations of the countries receiving refugees,

1. *Again congratulates* the Secretary-General for the efforts he has made to draw the attention of the international community to the situation of refugees in Central and East African countries;

2. *Again expresses its gratitude* to all States, organizations and bodies of the United Nations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have done so for the financial, technical and material assistance they have been delivering to those countries that have been receiving refugees since

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[10] A/53/292.

the onset of the crisis and for the humanitarian assistance they have continued to render to refugees and the host countries, and calls upon them to continue to provide assistance for the implementation of programmes intended for the rehabilitation of the environment and social infrastructure in areas affected by the presence of refugees and to facilitate the restoration of the basic services destroyed in those host countries;

3. *Appeals* to the international community to assist in the search for durable solutions for African refugees, including voluntary repatriation, local integration and resettlement in third countries;

4. *Calls upon* Governments, relevant United Nations bodies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international community as a whole to strengthen the emergency response capacity of the United Nations system and to continue to provide needed resources and operational support to refugees and countries of asylum in Central and East Africa;

5. *Again urges* the Governments of the region and all concerned parties to provide protection as well as safe and unhindered access for United Nations and other humanitarian personnel to the populations in need in all areas of the region, in accordance with international humanitarian law;

6. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize humanitarian assistance for the relief, voluntary repatriation, rehabilitation and resettlement of refugees, returnees and displaced persons, including those refugees in urban areas;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session a report on the follow-up to the present resolution, with a view to continuing discussions under the item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees".

82nd plenary meeting
8 December 1998

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EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO THE SUDAN

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/8 of 18 October 1988, 43/52 of 6 December 1988, 44/12 of 24 October 1989, 45/226 of 21 December 1990, 46/178 of 19 December 1991, 47/162 of 18 December 1992, 48/200 of 21 December 1993, 49/21 K of 20 December 1994, 50/58 J of 22 December 1995, 51/30 I of 17 December 1996 and 52/169 F of 16 December 1997 on emergency assistance to the Sudan,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[11]

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[11] A/53/307.

Welcoming agreed conclusions 1998/1 of the Economic and Social Council,[12] adopted by the Council at the humanitarian segment of its substantive session of 1998, in which, among other things, the Council reaffirmed that international cooperation to address emergency situations should be provided in accordance with international law and national laws, and that the affected State has the primary role in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory,

Welcoming also the agreements reached by the parties to Operation Lifeline Sudan to facilitate delivery of relief assistance to affected populations, as well as the progress made by the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in strengthening the coordination of the Operation,

Noting with appreciation the increased contributions to the 1998 inter-agency appeal for Operation Lifeline Sudan and the progress made in the operation following a lower level of contributions in the first quarter, and noting also that considerable relief needs still remain to be addressed, in particular in the areas of food and non-food assistance, including assistance to combat such diseases as malaria, and for logistics, emergency recovery, rehabilitation and development,

Expressing concern over the disastrous consequences of floods that have occurred in various parts of the country lately, and welcoming the appeal for assistance launched by the United Nations in that regard,

Calling for an early resolution to the conflict, and expressing concern that its continuation further increases the suffering of the civilian population and undermines the effectiveness of international, regional and national humanitarian assistance,

Reaffirming the need for all parties to continue to facilitate the work of humanitarian organizations in implementing emergency assistance, in particular the supply of food, medicines, shelter and health care, for which safe and unhindered access to the affected populations has to be respected by all parties,

Recognizing the need in emergency situations to ensure the smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development so as to reduce dependence on external food aid and other relief services,

1. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the cooperation by the Government of the Sudan with the United Nations, including the agreements and arrangements achieved to facilitate relief operations with a view to improving United Nations assistance to affected areas, and encourages the continuation of that cooperation;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the donor community, United Nations agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations for the contributions so far made to the humanitarian needs of the Sudan, and calls upon them to continue their assistance;

3. *Stresses the need* for Operation Lifeline Sudan to be operated and managed with a view to ensuring its efficiency, transparency and effectiveness, with the full involvement and cooperation of the Government of the Sudan, taking cognizance of the relevant Operation Lifeline Sudan agreements reached

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[12] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/53/3), chap. VII, para. 5.

by the parties, as well as consultations in the preparation of the consolidated annual inter-agency appeal for the Operation;

4. *Recognizes the need* for neutrality and impartiality of humanitarian activities, and the full cooperation of all parties, and stresses in this connection that Operation Lifeline Sudan should operate within the principle of national sovereignty and the framework of international cooperation in accordance with the relevant provisions of international law;

5. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to contribute generously to the emergency needs, recovery and development of the country, and urges all States, donor countries, the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide assistance to alleviate the plight of the population affected by the recent floods;

6. *Urges* the international community to give assistance for the rehabilitation of transportation means and infrastructure vital for the provision of relief supplies in the Sudan and their cost-effectiveness, and in this context stresses the importance of continued cooperation by all the parties involved so as to facilitate and improve the delivery of relief supplies;

7. *Calls upon* the donor community and the organizations of the United Nations system to provide financial, technical and medical assistance, guided by the actions called for by the General Assembly in its relevant resolutions to combat such diseases as malaria and other epidemics in the Sudan;

8. *Takes note of and is encouraged* by the signing of the April 1997 Peace Agreement, as well as the convening of rounds of talks between the Government and the Sudan People's Liberation Army faction under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development of the Countries of the Horn of Africa, calls for the intensification of its efforts with more frequent and regular talks to achieve a lasting peaceful solution and in this connection welcomes the announced ceasefire, and calls upon the parties to the conflict to maintain and broaden the ceasefire in order to ensure the delivery of humanitarian assistance;

9. *Urges* the international community to continue to support national programmes of rehabilitation, voluntary resettlement and reintegration of returnees and internally displaced persons, as well as assistance to refugees;

10. *Stresses the imperative* of ensuring the safety of humanitarian personnel, as well as safe and unhindered access for providing relief assistance to all affected populations, and the importance of strict observance of the principles and guidelines of Operation Lifeline Sudan, and of international humanitarian law reaffirming the necessity for humanitarian personnel to respect national laws;

11. *Urges* all parties involved to continue to offer all feasible assistance, including facilitating the movement of relief supplies and personnel, so as to guarantee the success of Operation Lifeline Sudan in all affected parts of the country, with special emphasis on national capacity-building in the humanitarian field for governmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as on meeting emergency relief needs;

12. *Welcomes* the signing by the Government of the Sudan of the Ottawa Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their

Destruction,[13] urges all parties to the conflict to desist from using anti-personnel mines, calls upon the international community to refrain from supplying mines to the region, and urges the international community and United Nations agencies to provide necessary assistance related to mine action in the Sudan;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize and coordinate resources and support for Operation Lifeline Sudan and to report on the emergency situation in the affected areas and the recovery, rehabilitation and development of the country to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session.

92nd plenary meeting
17 December 1998

[13] See CD/1478.